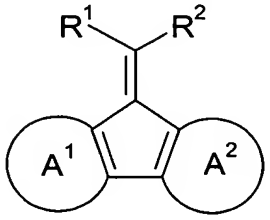
CLAIMS

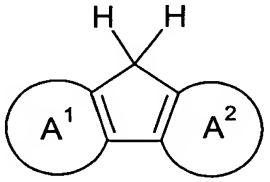
1. A process of preparing a compound of formula I



I

comprising:

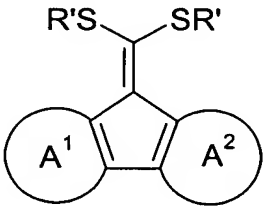
a) reacting a compound of formula Ia



Ia

with a base in the presence of carbondisulfide or a dialkyl trithiocarbonate of the formula $[(R'S)_2CS]$ and an alkylating agent (R'X), and

b) reacting the resulting compound of formula Ib



Ib

with a Grignard reagent R^1MgX and/or R^2MgX in the presence of a copper catalyst,

wherein

A^1 and A^2 are, independently of each other, an aromatic 5-ring, 6-ring or 7-ring which optionally contains one or more hetero atoms and

is optionally substituted with one or more identical or different groups R,

R is halogen or has one of the meanings of R^1,

R^1 and R^2 are, independently of each other, straight chain, branched or cyclic alkyl with 1–20 C-atoms, which may be unsubstituted, mono- or poly-substituted by F, Cl, Br, I or CN, optionally one or more non-adjacent CH_2 groups are replaced, independently from one another, by -O-, -S-, -NH-, $-NR^0-$, $-SiR^0R^{00}-$, -CO-, -COO-, -OCO-, -OCO-O-, $-SO_2-$, -S-CO-, -CO-S-, -CH=CH- or -C≡C- in such a manner that O and/or S atoms are not linked directly to one another, optionally substituted aryl or heteroaryl, or P-Sp,

R^0 and R^{00} are, independently of each other, H or alkyl with 1–12 C-atoms,

P is a polymerizable or reactive group,

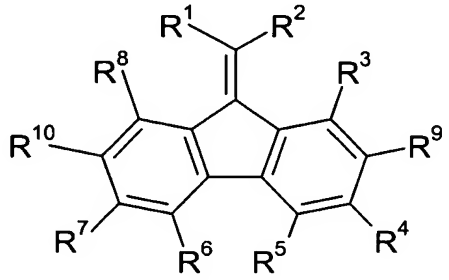
Sp is a spacer group or a single bond,

X is halogen, and

R' is straight, branched or cyclic alkyl with 1–20 C-atoms, which may be unsubstituted, mono- or poly-substituted by F, Cl, Br, I or CN, optionally one or more non-adjacent CH_2 groups are replaced, independently from one another, by -O-, -S-, -NH-, $-NR^0-$, $-SiR^0R^{00}-$, -CO-, -COO-, -OCO-, -OCO-O-, $-SO_2-$, -S-CO-, -CO-S-, -CH=CH- or -C≡C- in such a manner that O

and/or S atoms are not linked directly to one another, or alkyl aryl with 1–20 C-atoms.

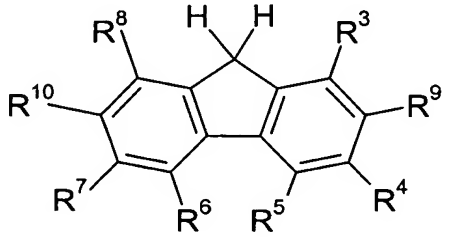
2. A process of preparing a compound according to claim 1, of formula I1



I1

comprising:

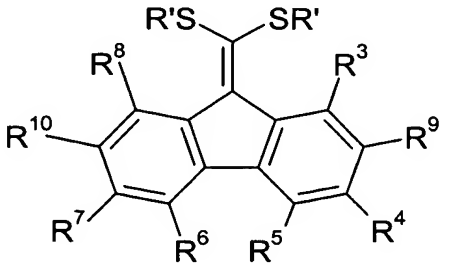
a) reacting a compound of formula I1a



I1a

with a base in the presence of carbondisulfide or a dialkyl trithiocarbonate of the formula $[(R'S)_2CS]$ and an alkylating agent (R'X), and

b) reacting the resulting compound of formula I1b



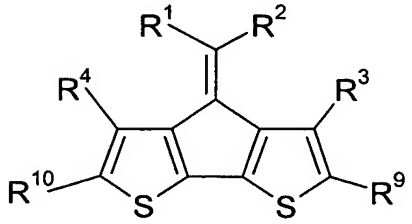
I1b

with a Grignard reagent R^1MgX and/or R^2MgX in the presence of a copper catalyst, wherein

R^3 to R^8 are, independently of each other, H, halogen, or have one of the meanings given for R^1, and

R^9 and R^{10} are, independently of each other, halogen.

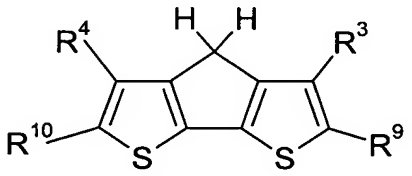
3. A process of preparing a compound according to claim 1, of formula I2



I2

comprising:

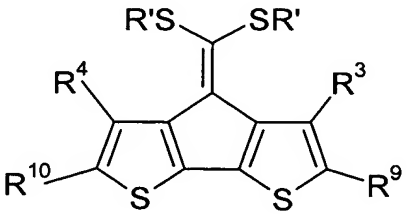
a) reacting a compound of formula I2a



I2a

with a base in the presence of carbondisulfide or a dialkyl trithiocarbonate of the formula $[(R'S)_2CS]$ and an alkylating agent (R'X), and

b) reacting the resulting compound of formula I2b



I2b

with a Grignard reagent R^1MgX and/or R^2MgX in the presence of a copper catalyst, wherein

R^3 to R^4 are, independently of each other, H, halogen, or have one of the meanings given for R^1, and

R^9 and R^{10} are, independently of each other, H or halogen.

4. A process according to claim 1, wherein the alkylating agent in a) is an alkylhalogenide or alkyl aryl halogenide of formula R'X, wherein X is Cl, Br or I and R' is alkyl or alkyl aryl with 1–15 C-atoms.

5. A process according to claim 1, wherein the base in a) is NaH, KOH, NaOtbut, or KOtbut.

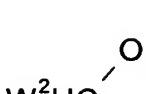
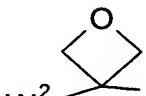
6. A process according to claim 1, wherein the copper catalyst in b) is Li_2CuCl_4.

7. A process according to claim 1, wherein the Grignard reagent in b) is R^1MgX wherein X is Cl, Br or I.

8. A process according to claim 1, wherein A^1 and A^2 are, independently, benzene, thiophene or pyridine.

9. A process according to claim 1, wherein R^1 and R^2 are, independently, C_1-C_{20}-alkyl, optionally substituted with one or more fluorine atoms, C_1-C_{20}-alkenyl, C_1-C_{20}-alkynyl, C_1-C_{20}-alkoxy, C_1-C_{20}-thioalkyl, C_1-C_{20}-silyl, C_1-C_{20}-ester, C_1-C_{20}-amino, or C_1-C_{20}-fluoroalkyl, or optionally substituted aryl or heteroaryl.

10. A process according to claim 1, wherein R^9 and R^{10} are, independently, Cl, Br or I.

11. A process according to claim 1, wherein the reactive group P is $CH_2=CW^1$-COO-,  ,  , $CH_2=CW^2$-$(O)_{k1}$-, CH_3-CH=CH-O-, $(CH_2=CH)_2CH$-OCO-, $(CH_2=CH-CH_2)_2CH$-OCO-, $(CH_2=CH)_2CH$-O-, $(CH_2=CH-CH_2)_2N$-, $(CH_2=CH-CH_2)_2N$-CO-, HO-CW^2W^3-, HS-CW^2W^3-, HW^2N-, HO-CW^2W^3-NH-, $CH_2=CW^1$-CO-NH-, $CH_2=CH$-$(COO)_{k1}$-Phe-$(O)_{k2}$-, Phe-CH=CH-, HOOC-, OCN-, or $W^4W^5W^6Si$-, wherein W^1 is H, Cl, CN, phenyl or alkyl with 1–5 C-atoms, W^2 and W^3 are, independently of each other, H or alkyl with 1–5 C-atoms, W^4, W^5 and W^6 are, independently of each other, Cl, oxaalkyl or oxacarbonylalkyl with 1–5 C-atoms, Phe is 1,4-phenylene that is optionally substituted by one or more groups R^1, and k_1 and k_2 are, independently of each other, 0 or 1.

12. A process according to claim 1, wherein the spacer group Sp is of the formula:

Sp'-X

wherein:

Sp' is alkylene with up to 30 C atoms which is unsubstituted or mono- or polysubstituted by F, Cl, Br, I or CN, optionally one or more non-adjacent CH_2 groups are replaced, in each case, independently from one another, by -O-, -S-, -NH-, -NR^0-, -SiR^0R^{00}-, -CO-, -COO-, -OCO-, -OCO-O-, -S-CO-, -CO-S-, -CH=CH- or -C≡C- in such a manner that O and/or S atoms are not linked directly to one another,

X' is -O-, -S-, -CO-, -COO-, -OCO-, -O-COO-, -CO-NR^0-, -NR^0-CO-, -OCH_2-, -CH_2O-, -SCH_2-, -CH_2S-, -CF_2O-, -OCF_2-, -CF_2S-, -SCF_2-, -CF_2CH_2-, -CH_2CF_2-, -CF_2CF_2-, -CH=N-, -N=CH-, -N=N-, -CH=CR^0-, -CY^1=CY^2-, -C≡C-, -CH=CH-COO-, -OCO-CH=CH- or a single bond, and

Y^1 and Y^2 have one of the meanings given above.

13. A process according to claim 1, wherein P is a polymerizable group.

14. A process according to claim 1, wherein P is a reactive group.